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Environment and sustainable development

Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon: draft resolution

Conservation and sustainable development of Central African forest ecosystems

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, General Assembly resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, on the report of the Conference, and resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992, establishing the institutional arrangements for follow-up of the Conference,

Recalling its resolution 53/188 of 15 December 1998 on implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that Central Africa has, after Amazonia in South America, the world's second largest forest heritage, whose natural characteristics play a decisive part in the equilibrium of the entire planet's biosphere and ecosystems,

Welcoming the Declaration by the Summit of Central African Heads of State on conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests, held at Yaoundé,

Mindful of the need for conservation and sustainable management of Central Africa's forests ecosystems, which constitute simultaneously an important natural asset for present and future generations and a worldwide ecological asset,

Convinced that the sustainable management of forest resources can contribute significantly to the economic, social and cultural development of the States bordering thereon,

Convinced of the important role of subregional and international cooperation in the management of forest ecosystems and of combating desertification in keeping with the international commitments entered into by the international community,

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Considering that a synergy of international and national efforts is essential in order to achieve sustainable development,

1. *Decides* to establish a trust fund to provide sustainable support for the Central African countries in their efforts for the management and conservation of and research into forest ecosystems;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.